

under rules applicable to court procedures.

[50 FR 1346, Jan. 10, 1985, as amended at 60 FR 46234, Sept. 6, 1995]

§ 417.680 Witnesses.

(a) The hearing officer may examine the witnesses.

(b) The parties or their representatives are permitted to examine their witnesses and cross-examine witnesses of other parties.

[50 FR 1346, Jan. 10, 1985, as amended at 60 FR 46234, Sept. 6, 1995]

§ 417.682 Discovery.

(a) Prehearing discovery is permitted upon timely request of a party.

(b) A request is timely if it is made before the beginning of the hearing.

(c) A reasonable time for inspection and reproduction of documents is provided by order of the hearing officer.

(d) The hearing officer's order on all discovery matters is final.

[50 FR 1346, Jan. 10, 1985, as amended at 60 FR 46234, Sept. 6, 1995]

§ 417.684 Prehearing.

The hearing officer may schedule a prehearing conference if he or she believes that a conference would more clearly define the issues.

§ 417.686 Record of hearing.

(a) A complete record of the proceedings at the hearing is made and transcribed and made available to all parties upon request.

(b) The record may not be closed until a hearing decision has been issued.

[50 FR 1346, Jan. 10, 1985, as amended at 60 FR 46234, Sept. 6, 1995]

§ 417.688 Authority of hearing officer.

In exercising his or her authority, the hearing officer must comply with the provisions of title XVIII and related provisions of the Act, the regulations issued by HCFA, and general instructions issued by HCFA in implementing that Act.

§ 417.690 Notice and effect of hearing decision.

(a) As soon as practical after the close of the hearing, the hearing officer issues a written decision that—

(1) Is based upon the evidence of record; and

(2) Contains separately numbered findings of fact and conclusions of law.

(b) The hearing officer provides a copy of the hearing decision to each party.

(c) The hearing decision is final and binding unless it is reopened and revised in accordance with § 417.692.

[50 FR 1346, Jan. 10, 1985, as amended at 60 FR 46234, Sept. 6, 1995]

§ 417.692 Reopening of initial or reconsidered determination or decision of a hearing officer.

(a) *Initial or reconsidered determination.* An initial or reconsidered determination may be reopened and revised by HCFA upon its own motion within one year of the date of the notice of determination.

(b) *Decision of hearing officer.* A decision of a hearing officer that is unfavorable to any party and is otherwise final may be reopened and revised by the hearing officer upon the officer's own motion within one year of the notice of the hearing decision. It may be reopened and revised by another hearing officer designated by HCFA if the hearing officer who issued the decision is unavailable.

(c) *Notices.* (1) The notice of reopening and of any revisions following the reopening is mailed to the parties.

(2) The notice of revision specifies the reasons for revisions.

[50 FR 1346, Jan. 10, 1985, as amended at 60 FR 46234, Sept. 6, 1995]

§ 417.694 Effect of revised determination.

The revision of an initial or reconsidered determination is binding unless a party files a written request for hearing of the revised determination in accordance with § 417.662.

[50 FR 1346, Jan. 10, 1985, as amended at 60 FR 46234, Sept. 6, 1995]